



NEWS RELEASE

Roberto A. Villaseñor Chief of Police

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ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY SERIAL BURGLARY SUSPECT

UPDATE - FEBRUARY 8, 2012

The serial burglary suspect wanted in connection with at least 19 different incidents was not only identified, but was also captured on the night of February 7, 2012. At approximately 9:37 p.m., the male entered the Circle K store located at 3541 East Fort Lowell Road. Once inside the store, he proceeded to walk behind the cashier counter and began filling a bag with cigarettes from the cigarette display case. After obtaining the cigarettes, the male exited the store and got into the passenger side of a **1993 Ford Ranger truck with a black stripe running along the bottom of the truck**. Officers from Operations Division Midtown responded to the store to initiate the investigation. In addition, information about the incident, suspect, and vehicle were broadcast citywide via police radio to other units working during the evening hours. A sergeant in Operations Division West spotted the suspect vehicle in the area of North First Avenue and East Blacklidge Drive at approximately 9:51 p.m. Other officers from Operations Division West responded to assist as a traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle. A male driver and the male suspect were both detained. Evidence from the burglary incident that had just occurred was inside of the vehicle. The vehicle was impounded for evidentiary purposes.

The male suspect whose picture had been previously released was identified as **22-year old Tucson resident Joseph Kehn**. The driver of the vehicle was identified as **William Kuitert**, **25-years of age** and also a Tucson resident. Both Mr. Kehn and Mr. Kuitert were arrested, transported, and booked into the Pima County Jail. Each was charged with **1 count of Third Degree Burglary**, **1 count of Theft, and 1 count of Organized Retail Theft, all felony offenses**. Additional charges will be forthcoming, pending follow-up investigation at the various other incident locations. Photographs of each male are included below.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipació.





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William Kuitert

Sergeant Maria Hawke – February 8, 2012___

IJPDATE

The suspect associated with these incidents is thought to be associated to a **White Ford Ranger truck** (unknown year). A distinguishing aspect of the truck is a **blue stripe that goes around the lower portion of the vehicle**. Also, detectives believe that the suspect began committing the burglaries on January 23, 2012.

_Sergeant Maria Hawke – February 7, 2012_____

The Tucson Police Department seeks the public's assistance in locating and identifying a **serial burglary suspect**. Thus far, we believe that a yet to be identified male has committed thefts in at least **19 different incidents**. The incidents have generally occurred in the midtown and western sides of the city. In most of the cases, the male enters a convenience store, walks behind the cashier counter to the employee only side of the counter, and fills a bag with cigarettes. He then leaves the store. The dollar-loss thus far is estimated to be in **excess of \$6,000.00**. In none of the instances has the male engaged in physical confrontation with employees or other persons at the stores. No one has been injured in any of the incidents.

The suspect has been described as a Caucasian male, in his 20's, 5'7" tall, weighing 145 pounds, with brown hair. Photographs obtained from surveillance footage of the thefts are included below. Anyone with information about the male's identity or whereabouts is urged to call 911 or 88-Crime.

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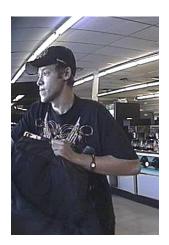




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